**These Perilous Times**

**Vol. 12 No. 5 March 7, 2020**

**“Zoom In”**

 In photography nomenclature, to “zoom in,” generally means one is to use a telescopic lens to bring something distant, into a more focused view.

 Jesus states in John 5:29, “***Search*** the ***scriptures***; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of **Me**” (Emphasis supplied)

**What does this mean for us?**

**Obvious Signs Do Tell The Season**

Let’s revisit the afore mentioned text and grasps the lesson the Jesus wants to communicate to us.

 Jesus said, “**Search** the scriptures…” This in no way infers just glossing over, or unconcernedly thumbing through the sacred pages of the Bible. Notice the definition of the word search.

 “Search: 1. To *go over or look through* for the purpose of *finding something*… *explore*, *rummage*, *examine*… 2. To *examine for something concealed*… 3. *To examine closely and carefully, test, and try*… “(Italics supplied). [[1]](#footnote-1)

 The word *search* means to focus, and/or “zoom in” on the scripture you are reading for the purpose of finding or uncovering something valuable, like searching hidden treasure.

**Bible study habits of the Bereans**

“These were more noble than those in Thessalonica in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and ***searched the scriptures daily***, whether these things were so.” Acts 17:11, also see II Tim. 2:15 KJV

(Emphasis supplied)

 Search-not only on Sabbath, not just when the mood strikes us, not every other day-BUT SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES DAILY!

 So, what is the main focal point of our Bible study/search? Finding Jesus. “…the way the truth and the life…” [[2]](#footnote-2) Also to avoid being deceived by counterfeit teachings.

**Counsel from God’s inspired messenger**

 “The vague and fanciful interpretations of Scripture, and the many conflicting theories concerning religious faith, that are found in the Christian world are the work of the great adversary *to confuse minds so they will not discern the truth*.

 And the discord and division which exists among the churches of Christendom are in a great measure due to the prevailing custom of wresting the Scriptures to support a *favorite theory.*

 Instead of carefully studying God’s word with humility of heart *to obtain a knowledge of* **His will**, many *seek only to discover something odd or original*…

Whenever the study of Scriptures is entered upon without a prayerful, and humble, teachable spirit the plainest and simplest as well as the most difficult passages will be wrested from their true meaning… Every truly honest soul will come to the light of truth. “Light is sown for righteousness” Ps. 97:11. And no church can advance in holiness unless its members are earnestly seeking for truth as for hid treasure… [[3]](#footnote-3) (Emphasis supplies)

“Then He said to them, these are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which are written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms ***concerning Me***. And He opened their understanding that *they might comprehend the Scriptures*.” Luke 24:44, 45 NKJV

 (Emphasis supplied)

**“Zoom In”**

**Saints**

1. Webster’s New World Dictionary (College Ed.) Cleveland & New York,

 World Publishing Company, 1964, p. 1315. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. John 14:6 [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. E. G. White. The Great Controversy, pp. 520 522. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)